

China. "A beautiful and characteristic Chinese pistache tree, having graceful, pinnate foliage, which, when just coming out is of wine-red color, then becomes glossy green, while toward fall it turns into flaming scarlet, purple and yellow hues. The tree is dioecious and the males become larger and taller than the females. It lives to be several centuries old and can reach truly enormous sizes when very old and when located in a good situation. A tree near the village of Tsai chia pu, Shensi province, has a girth of 16 feet, five feet above ground. Of value as a graceful park and avenue tree, especially for the milder semi-arid sections of the United States." (Meyer's introduction and description.) Persons subject to poison-ivy poisoning should exercise care in handling this tree as one or two cases of severe poisoning similar to that of ivy have been reported.

*Prunus sargentii* Rehder. (Amygdalaceae.) 40623. Plants of the Sargent cherry from the Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Mass. "The first of the Japanese cherries to flower is *Prunus sargentii*. This is a tall tree in the native forests of the northern island of Japan where it is valued as a timber tree. There are six specimens of different sizes on the Forest Hill Road, Arnold Arboretum, and they are now covered with clusters of large pink or rose-colored single flowers, for the color of the flowers of this tree varies considerably on different individuals. The small black fruits which ripen in June are almost hidden by the large dark-green leaves, which in the autumn turn to shades of orange and red; the smooth shining, reddish bark adds to the beauty of this tree. Travelers who have seen cherry blossoms in many lands declare that *Prunus sargentii* should become a common tree if nurserymen will recognize its value and make a business of making it known to the public." (Arnold Arboretum Bulletin of Popular Information, no. 20.)

*Psoralea corylifolia* L. (Fabaceae.) 40744. Seeds from near Kwei hsien, Shensi, China. "An annual herb, growing from 5 to 8 feet tall, cultivated here and there in patches, on rich bottom lands. Said to be utilized for medicinal purposes, only, the seeds being ground up and forming the main ingredient in Chinese kidney plasters. Of value possibly as a fodder plant for the warmer sections of the United States. Chinese name *Po ku chih*, meaning 'great illness medicine.'" (Meyer's introduction and description.)

*Pyrus spp.* (Malaceae.) 40724-728. Seeds of pears from Kansu, China. Five species or varieties of pears, some